THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) The Plant Load Factor (PLF) of coal based power stations operated by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and their efficiency during the last three years are as under;

	1996-97	1997-98	1988-99 April—October
PLF%	77	75.2	71.8@
Efficiency%	35.02	35.19	35.5

Thus there is an overall improvement in the efficiency every year.

@ Demand/Load picks up during the period October—March.

Mega Power Projects in Collaboration with Foreign Investment

267. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved a number of mega power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating public sector, as well as private sector projects;

(c) the details of each project with its capacity, location and financial involvement;

(d) the details of the land to be required for each project; and

(e) the details of foreign investment and collaboration or partnership?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) Government has recently recast the policy on development of mega power projects. According to the revised policy, certain projects sites, both in the Public as well as Private sector have been identified for setting up such mega projects which would cater to the power needs of more than one state. In the public sector, the National thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) would be setting up the following projects: Kahalgaon Stage II (1500 MW), North Karanpura STPP (2000 MW), Barh STPP (2000 MW), Maithon Project (1000 MW) and Cheyyur (1500 MW). In addition, NTPC would be expanding the four gas based plants, namely, Anta, Auriya, Kawas and candhar to an additional capacity of 1300 MW each.

The National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) would be taking up the following Inter-state projects: Kool-Karo (710 MW), Chamera-II (300 MW), Teesta—V (510 MW), Kol dam (800 MW) and Parvati (800 MW)

In the private sector, in addition to Hirma (6×660 MW) project in Orissa, the following new projects are also proposed to be taken up: Cuddalore (1000 MW) based on a blend of domestic and imported coal; Krishnapattanam (1500 MW)—based on a blend of domestic and imported coal; Pipavav (2000 MW)—based on imported coal and Narmada (1000 MW), which could be expanded to 2000 MW, based on LNG. Two or three more projects based on LNG, may be developed on the Western coast later. These fuel options can be revised based on feasibility and cost. The details of project cost and financial involvement for the proposed mega projects have not been firmed up.

(d) Land requirement for the new mega power projects proposed is in the process of being finalised.

(e) So far as private sector mega projects are concerned, the policy stipulates that the principles of competitive bidding would be adhered to as far as possible, while obtaining tariff offers. As the bidding process has not so far commenced, it is not possible to indicate details of foreign investment and collaboration of partnership, if any.